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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR WHA/CEN JASON MACK

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SUBJECT: DEMARCHE RESPONSE: IRAN EXTREMISM

REF: STATE 199225

¶1. Poloff delivered reftel talking points to Carlos Cordero, Chief of Multilateral Affairs at the MFA, on October 31. That same evening, Foreign Minister Roberto Tovar released a statement to the press and diplomatic community condemning the inflammatory rhetoric of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. The GOCR expressed its belief that Ahmadinejad's statements are contrary to international law and the precepts of the United Nations, and expressed its hope for peace and a negotiated settlement in the Middle East. Poloff followed up with Cordero on November 1, and expressed our appreciation for the GOCR statement against the Iranian rhetoric. Cordero told us that the text of the GOCR statement had been circulated as a diplomatic note to all members of the U.N. and had been presented directly to the Iranian delegation there.

¶2. Begin text of Post's unofficial translation of the statement:
Minister of Foreign Affairs Roberto Tovar Faja expressed that the Government of Costa Rica has received with deep concern the declarations of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, at the forum, "A World Without Zionism," held in Teheran, urging that the State of Israel be "wiped off the map."

The Government of Costa Rica views the statements of the Iranian president as contrary to the essential principles of international public law, as well as inconsistent with the core principles of the United Nations, of which both Iran and Israel are member states. It is not acceptable for a member state of the world body to express, through its chief of state, such grave and unacceptable statements, which attack the values of international peace and security and against the sovereign existence of another member state.

Costa Rica rejects these statements and reaffirms its hope that the situation in the Middle East can be solved in a negotiated way, which respects the rights of the involved parties and permits a peaceful and constructive coexistence of the Israelis and Palestinians.

End text.

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